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MAY 30 2003

Attorney Docket No. 1700

#17
6/5/03**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Campbell et al. ✓
Appl. No. : 09/510,937 ✓
Filed : 2/22/00 ✓
Title : Thin-Wall Polytetrafluoroethylene Tube ✓

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark
Office on May 29, 2003.

Melanie Williams
Melanee Williams

Group Art Unit : 1772 ✓
Examiner : Nolan, Sandra M. ✓

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Sir:

The following is in response to the Office Action of Dec. 30, 2002.

I. PRELIMINARY REMARKS

The present application is a continuation of parent US 6,027,779 (SN 08/247,960), which is a CIP of US 6,025,044 (SN. 08/204,708), which is a CIP of US 6,159,565 (SN. 08/108,963). The issued patents are referred to hereinafter as the parent patents.

Claims 1-28 are pending in the present application. Claims 21-28 were divided out by a restriction requirement in the Office Action of Dec. 30, 2002. Claims 1-20 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting. A terminal disclaimer is submitted herewith.

Applicants hereby request a two-month extension of time. The Commissioner is requested to charge the necessary fees for the extension of time to deposit account number 07-1729.

II. APPLICANTS' INVENTION

The present invention relates to a catheter balloon made of tube having a microstructure of nodes and fibrils such as porous expanded polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE), further including a non-porous coating over the porous microstructure. The coating renders the balloon non-porous. The thinness, flexibility and strength of the construction allow the resulting balloon to be collapsed to a small first diameter for insertion into a vascular conduit to a desired location at which it can be inflated.

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